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Message Text

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67
ACTION MBFR-04

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 EUR-25 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OIC-04

AEC-11 OMB-01 DRC-01 /161 W
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R 211630Z SEP 73
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1765
INFO ALL CSCE CAPITALS 006
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
USLOSACLANT
USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 5039

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJ: CSCE - CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURES

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

1. SUMMARY: SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS ON CBM'S HAVE BEGUN IN EARNEST. SOVIETS TABLED MODEL DECLARATION ON EUROPEAN SECURITY WHICH LIMITS SCOPE OF CBM'S. UK IN TURN RE-INTRODUCED HELSINKI PAPER ON SECURITY, AND CALLED FOR JOINT STUDY OF MANEUVERS, MOVEMENTS AND OBSERVERS. NORWEGIANS ANNOUNCED THEIR INTENTION TO SUBMIT DRAFT, WHICH THEY PROMISED VEST THEY WILL CIRCULATE IN NATO BEFORE TABLING IN GENEVA. NEUTRALS AND MANY ALLIES HAVE CLEARLY INDICATED THEIR INTENTION TO TREAT RANGE OF SECURITY ISSUES GOING BEYOND CURRENT US POSITIONS. END SUMMARY

2. SUB-COMMITTEE ON CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURE RAPIDLY TURNED TO SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS ON BASIS TENTATIVE WORK
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PROGRAM DEVISED BY SWISS. FOUR SESSIONS WILL TREAT CON-

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FIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES IN PARA 23 OF HELSINKI RECOM-
MENDATIONS, FOLLOWED BY TWO SESSIONS DEVOTED TO CONTENTS
PARAS 22 AND 24. SWISS FORMULA REPRESENTS REACTION TO
SOVIET EFFORT TO FOCUS DISCUSSION AND EARLY DRAFTING ON
ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF MANEUVERS AND EXCHANGE OF OBSERVERS
BEFORE TOUCHING ON OTHER ISSUES OF INTEREST TO NEUTRALS AND
MANY ALLIES.

3. SOVIETS RE-INTRODUCED RELEVANT PORTIONS OF GENERAL
DECLARATION ON FOUNDATIONS OF EUROPEAN SECURITY AND
PRINCIPLES GUIDING RELATIONS (CSCE/I/3, 4 JULY 1973)
CONCERNING ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF MANEUVERS AND EXCHANGE
OF OBSERVERS, TROOP REDUCTION TALKS AND DISARMAMENT.
AMB MENDELEVICH, APPARENTLY REPEATING HIS MPT ROLE
AS SOVIET SHEPHERD ON MILITARY ISSUES, STRESSED GREAT
IMPORTANCE SOVS ATTACH TO CBM'S BUT PROCEEDED TO ENUMERATE
AREAS WHICH REQUIRE DEFINITIVE AGREEMENT. HE SAW NEED
TO WORK OUT AGREED PROCEDURES ON ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF
MAJOR MANEUVERS. THE WORD "MAJOR" WAS PROBABLY KEY TO WHOLE
PROCESS. IN SOVIET VIEW IT SHOULD BE TAKEN TO MEAN "UNUSUAL
ACTIVITIES". HE CALLED FOR AGREEMENT ON "SPECIFIED AREAS" IN
WHICH MANEUVERS SHOULD BE NOTIFIED, DESCRIBING THESE FOR FIRST
TIME AS NEAR FRONTIERS. PROCEDURES WERE ALSO NECESSARY
FOR EXCHANGE OF OBSERVERS. FINALLY, HE DREW CLEAR
DISTINCTION BETWEEN MANDATE OF THE HELSINKI RECOMMENDATIONS
TO "SUBMIT" PROPOSALS ON MANEURVERS AND OBSERVERS AND TO
"STUDY" MOVEMENTS, THEREBY ACCOUNTING FOR ABASENCE OF ANY
REFERENCE TO MOVEMENTS IN SOVIET DRAFT.

4. NEUTRALS AND MANY NATO ALLIES FOUND LIMITATIONS OF
SOVIET APPROACH UNSATISFACTORY AND INDICATED THEIR INTENTION
TO RAISE A RANGE OF ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION, PARTICULARLY
QUESTION OF MOVEMENTS. AS EXPECTED, ROMANIANS JOINED THIS
GROUP.

5. NORWEGIANS ANNOUNCED THEIR INTENTION TO FLOAT GENERAL
PAPER ON MILITARY ISSUES. (COMMENT: NORWEGIAN REP ASSURED
VEST NORWEGIANS INTEND CIRCULATE TEXT IN NATO BEFORE TABLING
IT HERE. HE KNEW THAT IT WOULD, UNSURPRISINGLY, CONTAIN
SEVERAL POINTS GOING BEYOND CURRENT US POSITIONS. END
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COMMENT)

6. IN INTERVENTION ACCOMPANYING RE-INTRODUCTION OF UK
HELSINKI PAPER ON CBM'S (CSCE/I/18, 5 JULY 1973), BRITISH
REP TOUTED MERITS OF JOINT "STUDY" OF MOVEMENTS, MANEUVERS
AND OBSERVERS BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO SUBMIT SPECIFIC PROPOSALS.
HE SAW PROCESS AS VITAL TO DETERMINATION OF REALISTIC POS-
SIBILITIES BUT HOPED POSITIVE RECOMMENDATIONS WOULD FLOW

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FROM EFFORT. (COMMENT: UK TACTIC WAS DESIGNED TO PURSUE INTEREST IN MOVEMENTS, HOPING TO PUT ONUS ON SOVIETS FOR THEIR DEMISE, WITHOUT SIMULTANEOUSLY CONTRIBUTING TO POSSIBLE OPEN ALLIED SPLIT IN CONFERENCE. END COMMENT)
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